



Overview

Water Quality Control Plans or “Basin Plans” provide the foundation for all Central Valley Water Board regulatory actions. Basin Plans identify beneficial uses of surface and ground waters, water quality objectives to protect those uses, implementation actions to achieve objectives, and a monitoring and surveillance program to insure that implementation actions are effective. All actions by the Board must be compliant with the Basin Plans. The Central Valley Water Board has two [Basin Plans](#): one for the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins and one for the Tulare Lake Basin.

A public review process is conducted every three years (Triennial Review) to identify and prioritize actions needed to address water quality concerns and maintain effectiveness of the Basin Plans. Upon Board approval of the Triennial Review work plan, staff investigates water quality issues and proposes amendments to the Basin Plans for Board consideration. Amendments may range from developing site specific water quality objectives for a single constituent such as copper, to basin-wide control programs for a suite of potential pollutants such as pyrethroids, to policy recommendations and strategies for addressing emerging contaminants and/or climate change.

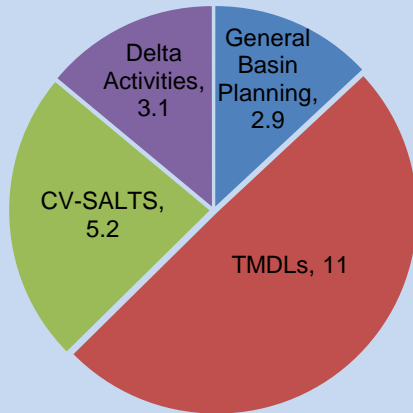
Staff resources for Basin Planning activities are leveraged between Waste Discharge Permit Fees (18.7-staff) and federal USEPA funding (3.5-staff) for a total of 22.2 PYs. The combined resources are utilized to implement the [Triennial Review Work Plan](#), which for FY 2016-2017 includes activities specifically related to Basin Planning; the Total Maximum Daily Load ([TMDL](#)) Program; the Central Valley Salinity Alternatives for Long-Term Sustainability ([CV-SALTS](#)) initiative; and [Delta](#) activities. Most Planning staff work out of the Rancho Cordova office. Only 2.9 of the total 22.2 PYs are committed to Basin Planning work. The remaining 19.3 PY are committed to working in the other planning activities identified above and discussed on separate Fact Sheets.

Information on the TMDL Program, the CV-SALTS initiative, and Delta Activities are in separate Fact Sheets. The remainder of this Fact Sheet focuses on general Basin Planning activities.

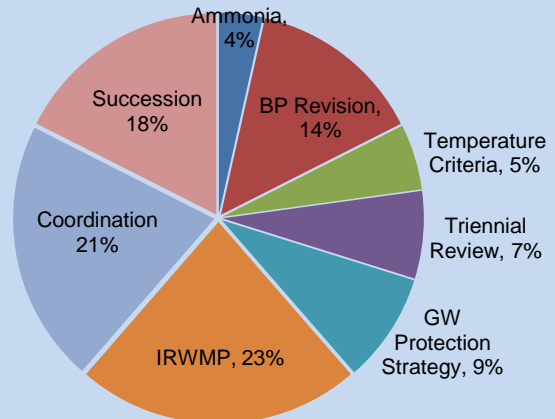
Goals

The goal of the Basin Planning Program is to establish and update regulatory frameworks and programs that will preserve and enhance water quality and protect beneficial uses of water for the maximum benefit of the people of California. The Triennial Review process insures that the Basin Plans address public concerns and continue to be effective at meeting program goals in a reasonable and transparent manner.

Planning Program Allocations (22.2 PYs)



BP Staff Activities (2.9-staff)



Priority Basin Planning Project Activities: FY 2016/17

- Amend both Basin Plans in consideration of appropriate Aquatic Life Ambient Water Quality Criteria for Ammonia in Freshwater (2015 – 2018)
- Regulatory and non-Regulatory Revisions of both Basin Plans to incorporate recent amendments and clarify content (2016 – 2018)
- Develop methodology to derive temperature criteria for Central Valley streams that is protective of anadromous salmonids (2016 – 2018)
- Manage, track and report on [Groundwater Protection Strategy](#) implementation
- Initiate 2018 Triennial Review
- Coordination with 23 Integrated Regional Watershed Management Programs (IRWMPs)
- Coordination with Statewide Planning Efforts
- Succession planning for retiring basin planning staff.

Performance Targets for FY 2016-2017

Project/Target Description

Establish/update water quality objectives for ammonia

- Tribal Consultation
- Public Scoping

Non-Regulatory Basin Plan Reformatting

- Draft released for public review

Regulatory Basin Plan Revisions

- Tribal Consultation
- Public Scoping

Develop methodology to derive temperature criteria for Central Valley streams that is protective of anadromous salmonids

- Initiate contract for literature review
- Initiate contract to develop methodology and identify three pilot watersheds

Initiate 2018 Triennial Review

- Public Solicitation and Workshops
- Draft work plan

Succession planning for retiring basin planning staff.

- Update Program Manual
- Develop Web Based Training Material